the following evening we got another. During the course of our stay, I must have seen a dozen individuals on the sand. All were seen after sunset by torchlight and left the impression that they were headed for the jungle. Upon closer examination in Bombay, my specimens were found to be a male (812 mm) and a female (990 mm). The female had 7 eggs which showed no traces of development and measured 55-71 mm in length and 24-25 mm in breadth.

Smith's FAUNA, 1943, page 440, states that all species of the sub-family Hydrophiinae (family Hydrophiidae, sea-snakes) produce their young alive but makes no reference to the breeding arrangements of the other sub-family Laticaudinae. In a note in the *Bulletin of the Raffles Museum* 1931, **5** : 54, S. Smedley refers to between 1 and 6 eggs being laid by individuals in a tank containing sea water. He goes on to discuss the probability of these eggs being laid prematurely in consequence of captivity but quotes lighthouse-keepers as stating that they had seen females coiled around eggs laid in crevices in rocks. Allowing for Malcolm Smith's statement that he had examined a specimen containing embryos enclosed in a semi-transparent covering, he concludes that oviparity and ovoviviparity may occur in the same species.

I am unable to add any definite information in this respect but it would appear that the habits of this species are unusual for a sea-snake for, apart from their moving inland, one was found a couple of feet off the ground on the branch of a tree.

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12. CANNIBALISM AND FEEDING IN TWO SNAKES, *TRIMERESURUS ALBOLABRIS* AND *AHAETULLA NASUTUS*

On 8 March 1965 I discovered that a young male Pit Viper (*Trimeresurus albolabris*) in my possession had killed and begun to swallow its Green Whip Snake (*Ahaetulla nasutus*) cagemate. As the former was a mere sixteen inches long and the latter thirty-six inches in length, this was at best a Pyrrhic victory. The pit viper succeeded in swallowing the first thirteen inches of the whip snake, before regurgitating its meal.

Once a skink (*Mabuya novemcarinata*) was dropped as food into a cage containing a *Ahaetulla nasutus* and a Bronzeback (*Dendrelapsis ahaetulla ahaetulla*). It was in due time struck by the Whipsnake and grasped by the right arm. The lizard broke free, when the snake turned and struck the Bronzeback, grasping it about an inch back of the head.

A struggle followed, at the end of which the bronze snake also broke free. On other occasions I have seen *Ahaetulla nasutus* strike and eat *Calotes versicolor* and *Platyurus platyurus*, both common lizards, and adult sparrows (*Passer montanus*).

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13. OCCURRENCE OF CEYLON KALOULA : (*KALOULA PULCHRA TAPROBANICA* PARKER) (FAMILY : MICROHYLIDAE) AT TAMBARAM, TAMIL NADU

In September, 1970, I collected a specimen of *Kaloula pulchra taprobanica* Parker in my house compound. It is interesting to note that the specimen was collected from a hollow in the branch of a Mango tree, about five feet above the ground level.

When alive the colour pattern differs from the description given by J. C. Daniel [*JBNHS* **60** (3) : 699] by the presence of the midbody being dark olive green. The tips of the warts on the dorsal side are white. Red patches are present on the legs and the chin. Lips red.

When put in loose wet sand it burrowed exactly like *Uperodon systoma* by dislodging the soil by the sideways movements of the hind legs, but it did not subside completely into the soil. The head was always kept above the ground level. When put in water it felt uncomfortable and tried to come out of the water. Poorly developed webs in the legs and its uneasiness in water suggests that it is comparatively a poor swimmer.

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14. THE DEEP SEA SPINED DOG FISH *CENTROPHORUS ARMATUS* (GILCHRIST) (SELACHII : SUALIDAE) FROM THE EAST COAST OF INDIA, WITH A NOTE ON ITS TAXONOMY

(*With a map and a text-figure*)

The spined dog fish *Centrophorus armatus* (Gilchrist) was first reported by Gilchrist (1922) from the east coast of Africa and later from Natal coast and Mozambique by others. Silas *et al.* (1969) recorded it from